

LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Economic Growth Region 7

Statistical Data for December 2006

February 2007

December 2006 Unemployment Rates

(Preliminary Not-Seasonally Adjusted)

Release Date: 1/29/07

AREA	12/06	11/06	12/05
U.S.	4.3%	4.3%	4.6%
INDIANA	4.7%	4.5%	5.3%
EGR 7*	5.4%	5.0%	6.6%
Terre Haute MSA**	5.6%	5.2%	6.6%
Clay	5.6%	5.1%	6.2%
Parke	5.2%	4.6%	6.1%
Putnam	4.9%	4.3%	6.7%
Sullivan	5.4%	4.9%	7.3%
Vermillion	5.9%	5.5%	7.4%
Vigo	5.5%	5.2%	6.4%
Brazil	7.0%	6.6%	7.9%
Clinton	7.5%	7.3%	10.7%
Greencastle	6.1%	5.4%	8.1%
Rockville	11.1%	9.3%	11.5%
Sullivan	5.4%	5.5%	9.7%
Terre Haute	6.2%	5.8%	7.0%

***EGR 7** includes Clay, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Vermillion and Vigo counties

** **Terre Haute MSA** includes Clay, Sullivan, Vermillion and Vigo counties

***All unemployment rates used are non-seasonally adjusted.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics – Indiana Workforce Development



REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Regional and state unemployment rates were little changed in December. Overall, 17 states recorded over-the-month unemployment rate decreases, 15 states and the District of Columbia registered increases, and 18 states had no change, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Over the year, jobless rates were down in 38 states, up in 8 states and the District of Columbia, and unchanged in 4 states.

Mississippi reported the highest unemployment rate in December, 7.5 percent, followed by Michigan at 7.1 percent, Alaska at 6.7 percent, and South Carolina at 6.6 percent. The District of Columbia registered a jobless rate of 6.3 percent. Hawaii and Utah again recorded the lowest rates, 2.0 and 2.6 percent, respectively.

In December, the Midwest registered the highest unemployment rate among the four regions, 5.0 percent. The South reported the lowest rate, 4.3 percent, followed closely by the Northeast and West, at 4.4 and 4.5 percent, respectively. No region recorded a statistically significant unemployment rate change from November. All four regions posted significantly lower unemployment rates than a year earlier; the Northeast and South (-0.4 percentage point each) and the Midwest and West (-0.3 point each).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RANKING by COUNTY (High to Low)

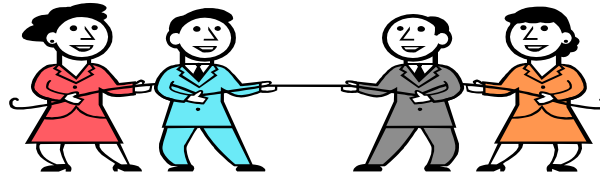
DEC 2006 RANK	COUNTY	DEC 2006 RATE
13	Vermillion	5.9%
19	Clay	5.6%
24	Vigo	5.5%
28	Sullivan	5.4%
34	Parke	5.2%
42	Putnam	4.9%

SURROUNDING STATES DECEMBER 2006 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (Preliminary Not-Seasonally Adjusted)

Illinois – 3.9% Indiana – 4.7%
Kentucky – 4.9% Michigan – 6.9% Ohio – 5.4%

	Dec 2006	Nov 2006	Dec 2005	CHANGE FROM			
				Nov 2006 TO Dec 2006		Dec 2005 TO Dec 2006	
Total Nonfarm	75,500	75,600	75,100	-100	-0.1%	+400	+0.5%
Total Private	62,200	62,200	61,200	+0	+0.0%	+1,000	+1.6%
Goods Producing	15,900	16,100	15,700	-200	-1.2%	+200	+1.3%
Service-Providing	59,600	59,500	59,400	+100	+0.2%	+200	+0.3%
Private Srvc Provider	46,300	46,100	45,500	+200	+0.4%	+800	+1.8%
Nat. Res & Construction	3,300	3,500	3,300	-200	-5.7%	+0	+0.0%
Manufacturing	12,600	12,600	12,400	+0	+0.0%	+200	+1.6%
Trade, Transportation, Util	15,000	14,900	14,700	+100	+0.7%	+300	+2.0%
Wholesale Trade	1,700	1,700	1,700	+0	+0.0%	+0	+0.0%
Retail Trade	10,300	10,200	10,100	+100	+1.0%	+200	+2.0%
Trans,Warehouse, Utility	3,000	3,000	2,900	+0	+0.0%	+100	+3.4%
Information	800	800	800	+0	+0.0%	+0	+0.0%
Financial Activities	2,700	2,700	2,700	+0	+0.0%	+0	+0.0%
Professional and Business	5,200	5,200	5,300	+0	+0.0%	-100	-1.9%
Educational and Health	12,500	12,600	12,400	-100	-0.8%	+100	+0.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,200	7,100	6,800	+100	+1.4%	+400	+5.9%
Other Services	2,900	2,800	2,800	+100	+3.6%	+100	+3.6%
Government	13,300	13,400	13,900	-100	-0.7%	-600	-4.3%
Federal Government	1,500	1,500	1,500	+0	+0.0%	+0	+0.0%
State Government	4,600	4,700	4,900	-100	-2.1%	-300	-6.1%
Local Government	7,200	7,200	7,500	+0	+0.0%	-300	-4.0%
Local Govt Education	4,000	4,000	4,300	+0	+0.0%	-300	-7.0%

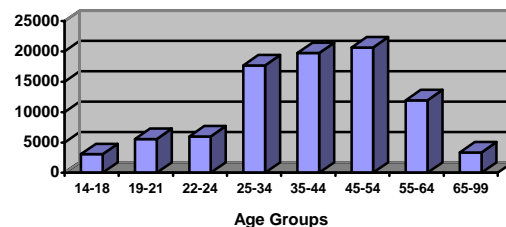
Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



LOCAL EMPLOYMENT DYNAMICS

Local Employment Dynamics (LED), a partnership between the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the U.S. Census Bureau, provides innovative demographic employment information (Quarterly Workforce Indicators) for local decision makers, economic development agencies, education and training institutions, and transportation agencies. The Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) measure the performance of the local economy. Turnover, separations, new hires, and average new hire earnings by county, metropolitan area, and Workforce Investment area are among the data items on the web site. The web address is: <http://lehd.dsd.census.gov/led/>. Select QWI On-line under Quick Links.

Economic Growth Region 7 Total Employment by Age Groups, 4th Quarter 2005



14-18	19-21	22-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-99
3,065	5,578	5,988	17,687	19,723	20,651	11,946	3,364

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Local Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD), Local Employment Dynamics (LED), Industry Focus, 4th quarter 2005.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Reports...

On average, public employees in 5 communities in the Boston, Mass. area called in sick about 8 or 9 days a year -- in the private sector about 5 or 6 days, according to business groups (Matt Carroll, Boston Globe, http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/09/17/out_sick_again?mod=PF). Using sick days as personal days is not just a problem in the public sector. Private companies wrestle with the issue, although they generally offer fewer sick days as a benefit and fewer such days are taken. But only between 3 and 5 percent of private companies offer as many as 10 to 15 days of sick time, according to a survey of companies in Massachusetts by Associated Industries. Overall, paid sick leave is offered by about 50 percent of the nation's firms, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Private industry employees take fewer sick days, too. Data from CCH Inc., an Illinois-based company that tracks business data, indicate that those workers take, on average, about five to six "unscheduled absences" from work per year.

Economists agree: It's time to shut off electronic devices, put up tray tables and return your seat to an upright position. The economy is coming in for a landing. Optimists say it will be the much sought after "soft landing" when the economy slows but doesn't skid into recession. But some economists now are forecasting a bumpy landing, or even worse. The risk of an outright recession is rising due to the sharp slowdown in the housing market and a downturn in auto sales -- two key sectors that may already be in recession themselves. "The way I would put it, the odds of recession have risen over the past month," said Mark Zandi, chief economist for Moody's Economy.com. ("New worry: A hard 'soft landing'", by Chris Isidore, CNN Money, http://money.cnn.com/2006/09/28/news/economy/bumpy_landing/index.htm?postversion=2006092821)

About 42 percent of U.S. employers rate newly hired high school graduates overall as deficient in critical workplace skills, while almost 46 percent of employers consider their preparation for entry-level jobs as adequate, according to a survey released Oct. 2 by the Conference Board and three other groups. By contrast, 65 percent to 70 percent of survey participants viewed graduates of two-year and four-year colleges as much better prepared for their entry-level jobs, with only about 10 percent of employers considering these graduates' preparation as deficient, the survey found. "The future workforce is here, and it is ill-prepared," concluded the survey report, *Are They Really Ready to Work?* "This study should serve as an alert to educators, policy makers and those concerned with U.S. economic competitiveness that we may be facing a skills shortage," said Susan R. Meisinger, president and chief executive office of SHRM. ("Many Employers Rate High School Graduates As Deficient in Workplace Skills, Survey Says", Daily Labor Report, page A-9)



TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY LOCAL OFFICE

Source: Indiana Workforce Development,
Research & Analysis, Workforce Transition Unit

WAGE DEMAND INFORMATION

As of 2/11/07

The Department of Workforce Development Customer Self Service System (CS3) performs matches between job applicants looking for work and employers looking for new employees.

Wage Demand provides the number of applicants registered in CS3, as well as the annual and median wages that the applicants define as their wage expectations.

County/Region	Average Annual Wage Demand	Median Annual Wage Demand	Number Of Applicants
Clay	\$22,455	\$20,800	699
Parke	\$22,729	\$20,800	320
Putnam	\$26,059	\$23,400	808
Sullivan	\$22,704	\$16,640	519
Vermillion	\$22,164	\$20,800	330
Vigo	\$21,382	\$18,720	2,600
EGR 7	\$22,485	\$19,240	5,276
Indiana	\$27,752	\$20,800	173,315

LOCAL OFFICE	December 2006	November 2006	Previous Month % Change	December 2005	Previous Year % Change
Terre Haute	9,587	6,915	38.6%	10,976	-12.7%
INDIANA	298,213	241,826	23.3%	286,068	4.2%

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI-U)

Unadjusted percent change to Dec 2006 from:

	<u>Dec 05</u>	<u>Nov 06</u>
U.S. City Average		
All Items	2.5%	.1%
Food & Beverages	2.2%	.1%
Housing	3.3%	.1%
Apparel	.9%	-2.5%
Transportation	1.6%	.9%
Medical Care	3.6%	.0%
Recreation	1.0%	-.4%
Education & Communication	2.3%	-.1%
Other Goods & Services	3.0%	.7%
 Midwest Region (All Items)*	 1.7%	 .1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

*Midwest Region = Midwest Urban Average. Expenditure categories are not available on a regional basis.

Midwest Region includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.



**INDIANA'S LABOR MARKET
INFORMATION WEBSITE**

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Serving...

Clay, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan,
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REGION 7 APPLICANT POOL

AS OF 2/11/2007

<u>Job Titles</u>	<u>Number of Applicants</u>
Administrative Assistants	324
All Other Hand Workers	408
All Other Machine Operators	444
Assemblers (Factory Work)	1,054
Cashiers, General	474
Customer Service Reps -Utilities	274
Data Entry Keyers, Except Composing	271
File Clerks	328
Forklift/Industrial Truck Operators	497
General Office Clerks	483
Hand Packers & Packagers	462
Order Fillers - Wholesale/Retail Sales	243
Other Hand Material Movers	249
Packaging/Filling Mach Operators	231
Production Helpers	345
Production Laborers	985
Receptionists/Information Clerks	381
Secretaries - Other	271
Shipping & Receiving Clerks	240
Stock Clerks : Stockroom/Warehouse	223

*The Department of Workforce Development's Customer Self Service System (CS3) performs matches between job applicants looking for work and employers looking for applicants to hire. **Applicant Pool** provides a numerical listing of the top jobs being sought by job applicants.

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